

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of making a photovoltaic cell, the method comprising:
~~contacting a cross-linking agent with~~ linking semiconductor particles with a first material different from the semiconductor particles and comprising a metal; and
incorporating the semiconductor particles into the photovoltaic cell.
2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the ~~cross-linking agent~~ first material comprises an organometallic molecule.
3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the ~~cross-linking agent~~ first material and the semiconductor particles each comprise an identical chemical element.
4. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein the chemical element is a metal.
5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 3, wherein the chemical element is selected from [[a]] the group consisting of titanium, zirconium, and zinc.
6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the ~~cross-linking agent~~ first material and the semiconductor particles comprise an identical chemical bond.
7. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein the chemical bond is a metal to non-metal bond.

8. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein the chemical bond is a metal-oxygen bond.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the ~~cross-linking agent~~ first material is a material selected from ~~[[a]]~~ the group consisting of metal alkoxides, metal acetates, and metal halides.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the ~~cross-linking agent~~ first material comprises a sol-gel precursor.

11. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising applying a dye on the semiconductor particles.

12. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the semiconductor particles are disposed on a first substrate.

13. (Original) The method of claim 12, further comprising electrically connecting a second substrate to the first substrate.

14. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein the semiconductor particles are disposed between the first and second substrates.

15. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein the second substrate is flexible.

16. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein the second substrate comprises a polymeric material.

17. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein the polymeric material is selected from a group consisting of polyethyleneterephthalate and polyethylenenaphthalate.

18. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein the second substrate comprises a polyimide.

19. (Original) The method of claim 12, further comprising heating the first substrate to less than about 400 °C.

20. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein the first substrate is flexible.

21. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein the first substrate comprises a polymeric material.

22. (Original) The method of claim 21, wherein the polymeric material is selected from a group consisting of polyethyleneterephthalate and polyethylenenaphthalate.

23. (Original) The method of claim 21, wherein the substrate comprises a polyimide.

24. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising incorporating a polymeric electrolyte into the photovoltaic cell.

25. (Original) A method of making a photovoltaic cell, the method comprising:

(a) contacting titanium oxide particles with a first flexible polymeric substrate to form a titanium oxide film on the first substrate;

(b) contacting the titanium oxide film with titanium alkoxide to cross-link the particles;

(c) contacting the titanium oxide film with a dye;

(d) contacting the titanium oxide film with a polyelectrolyte; and

(e) applying a second flexible polymeric substrate on the polyelectrolyte to form the cell.

26. (Currently Amended) A method of making a photovoltaic cell, the method comprising:

- (a) continuously forming a first electrode comprising:
 - a flexible polymeric first substrate;
 - a titanium oxide film disposed on the first substrate, the titanium oxide film comprising particles linked by a first material;
 - a dye comprising ruthenium disposed on the titanium oxide film; and
 - a polyelectrolyte disposed on the titanium oxide film;
- (b) continuously forming a second electrode comprising:
 - a flexible polymeric second substrate; and
 - a catalyst layer comprising platinum disposed on the second substrate; and
- (c) continuously connecting the first and second electrodes to form the cell.

27-59. (Canceled)

60. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the first material comprises titanium alkoxide.

61. (New) The method of claim 26, wherein the first material comprises titanium alkoxide.

62. (New) A method of fabricating a photovoltaic cell, the method comprising:

- (a) forming a first electrode comprising semiconductor particles disposed on a flexible substrate, the particles being linked by a first material different from the particles and comprising a metal;

- (b) forming a second electrode comprising a second substrate; and
- (c) continuously joining the first and second electrodes to form the photovoltaic cell.

63. (New) The method of claim 62, wherein step (a) comprises contacting the semiconductor particles with the first material.

64. (New) The method of claim 62, wherein step (a) comprises heating the first electrode to less than about 400 °C.

65. (New) The method of claim 64, wherein heating is performed after contacting the particles with the first material.

66. (New) The method of claim 62, wherein step (a) comprises applying a polymeric polyelectrolyte to the first electrode.

67. (New) The method of claim 66, wherein the polyelectrolyte comprises about 5% to about 100% by weight of a polymer, about 5% to about 95% by weight of a plasticizer and about 0.5 M to about 10 M of a redox electrolyte.

68. (New) The method of claim 62, wherein the second substrate is flexible.

69. (New) The method of claim 62, wherein step (b) comprises forming a catalyst on the second substrate.

70. (New) The method of claim 62, further comprising contacting the semiconductor particles with a dye.

71. (New) A method of fabricating a photovoltaic cell, the method comprising:

forming a first electrode comprising

- (a) linking semiconductor particles with a first material comprising a metal;
- (b) applying the semiconductor particles onto a flexible first substrate; and
- (c) applying a polymeric electrolyte onto the first substrate,

wherein forming the first electrode is performed in a continuous process.

72. (New) The method of claim 71, further comprising heating the first electrode to less than about 400 °C after linking the semiconductor particles.

73. (New) The method of claim 71, further comprising contacting the particles with a dye.

74. (New) The method of claim 71, further comprising forming a second electrode having a catalyst disposed thereon.

75. (New) The method of claim 74, wherein the second electrode is formed in a continuous process.

76. (New) The method of claim 75, further comprising continuously joining the first and second electrodes to form the photovoltaic cell.